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14 September 2011

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
State of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **Request to Sign AB 54 (Solorio) – Mutual Water Companies**

Dear Governor Brown:

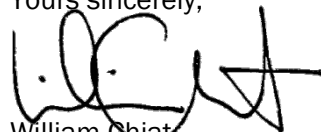
The California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions respectfully requests that you **sign Assembly Bill 54** (Solorio) which is now before you for action. Among other things, this legislation would require mutual water companies to be responsive to information requests on water service from Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCo).

The Cortese-Know-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act requires LAFCo to prepare municipal service reviews to inform decisions on agency spheres of influence and other service delivery decisions. Because availability of drinking water is a key element in LAFCo decisions, the water municipal service review(s) in each county are a critical information document. In many places in California domestic water is provided by mutual water companies. It has often proven difficult, however, for LAFCo to obtain basic information from the mutual companies and therefore impossible to prepare an accurate picture of the domestic water services in certain areas. In addition, LAFCos have little information on the territory served by mutual companies.

This legislation requires mutual water companies to provide LAFCo with requested water delivery information as well as a map of their service territory. It also authorizes LAFCo to request information on compliance with drinking water standards by all providers. Together these will provide commissions and the community with a more comprehensive review of all public water systems in the county. Public agencies are already required to provide this information. The Public Utilities Commission now requires investor-owned utilities to respond to information requests from LAFCo and provide maps. This legislation would place similar requirements on mutual water companies.

Because this bill would add critical water data to LAFCo municipal service reviews and water availability determinations, we respectfully urge you to sign AB 54.

Yours sincerely,



William Chiat,
Executive Director

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c: Assembly Member Jose Solorio